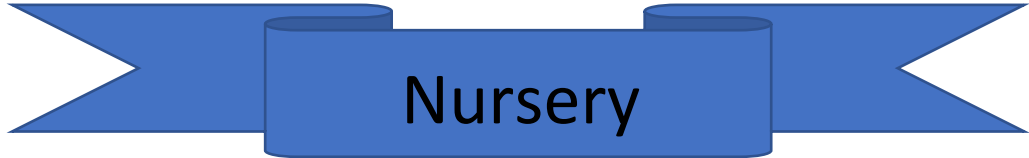




# Summer Term 1 - Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents & Carers,

This half term our theme is Mini-beasts using our core texts *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *The Very Busy Spider* as a starting point. Children will learn to name mini-beasts and begin to understand the life cycle of some of these insects. We will have a family visit to Butterfly World to give the children experience of the many different types of butterflies there are around the world and the habitats they live in.

We will build upon our work throughout the year on celebrations as we learn about Ramadan and Eid. We will also be celebrating the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee ending the half term with a family picnic.

We have a lot of exciting learning ahead, and looking forward to having the outdoor area completed in the coming weeks.

Our core texts for this half term are

Night Monkey, Day Monkey	The Very Hungry Caterpillar	The Very Busy Spider	Aaarrghh Spider!	Spinderella

We will be listening regularly to these stories, learning to join in repeated phrases. The children will be learning to understand the five key concepts about print:

- print has meaning
- the names of the different parts of a book – front cover, title
- print can have different purposes, for example lists, instructions, stories
- page sequencing - we read English text from left to right and from top to bottom
- Listen to a story and comment on what is happening in it.

We will focus on developing language skills so children can communicate with others confidently. We will listen to many nursery rhymes, encouraging children to join in. Learning to sing rhymes is an extremely important step in learning to read as it helps children to notice and hear the sounds within words. The more rhymes your child is able to sing accurately the more likely they will become a confident reader as they move through school.

Children who are moving into Reception are beginning to join in short, daily phonics sessions following the Read Write Inc Programme for Nursery. This is the programme school uses to teach reading. The children will learn to 'Fred Talk', orally blending sounds together.

All children are continuing to learn to recognise their name. They will learn to choose their name card from a group of names beginning with the same sound so they recognise their name confidently. If your child is moving into Reception in September, they no longer have a picture cue to help them find their name card as they are focusing on recognising their names independently when they arrive at nursery. Children will learn to build their name using different objects to help them learn the order of the letters in their name, without having to write it. When they draw pictures, they will be encouraged to try to write their name on their work. When they are ready, children will learn to form the letters in their name correctly.

In maths, we will be completing a Sunflower Challenge, building on our work on growing last half term we will become experts on sunflowers whilst developing our mathematical skills such as noticing, comparing, measuring and counting. We will explore using five frames and develop our subitising skills. We will focus on children's ability to explain what they see. As part of the Sunflower challenge we will explore the flowers themselves, drawing and painting them, as well as seeing who grows the tallest sunflower.

**Nursery children must wear uniform.** All children must have a bag, with spare clothes, for example pants, socks, top and trousers just in case they need changing, for example if they have got wet as they play in the water. Shoes should not have laces as these come undone easily. **Earrings must not be worn,** to nursery for health and safety reasons. **All items of clothing must be named.**

Please continue to read daily with your child. Children who share books with an adult regularly at home become confident readers as they move through school. Children can change their books every day if they would like. Sometimes they may choose to bring the same book home to share. This is because they are developing a love of reading and beginning to have favourite books. Reading the same books repeatedly supports your child's understanding of how stories are structured and develop their vocabulary so they begin to use new words learnt in the stories they read as they play.

If your child draws a picture in their reading together booklet 3 times in a week, they will receive a prize on a Friday. Children must complete the picture by themselves, do not draw it for them. The more practise your child has at drawing will enable them to learn to use shapes more effectively to draw their own recognisable pictures, which is something they need to be able to do by the end of nursery.

It has been wonderful to see some of the pictures you have posted of your children on Tapestry. Posting these pictures of what the children have been doing at home helps develop their confidence to talk about what they have done, which supports their language development.

We will continue to post pictures of what your child is learning on Tapestry. Please 'like' or make a comment on their work so we know you have seen it. The children love to share their learning with you and often ask us to take photos so that you can see what they have done.

If you have any further questions about your child's learning in Nursery, please come and ask.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hardiman

